

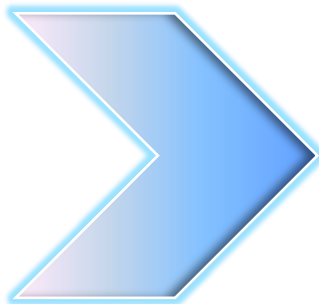
## Micro Reactor Technology:

A Safer and Intelligent Approach to  
Process Intensification

Praveen Gosain  
Regional Director – India SE  
Asia and Australia  
GosainP@corning.com

### Agenda

- ❑ AFR™ Technology & Products
- ❑ AFR™-Production Made Real
- ❑ Concluding Remarks



# Corning Patented “Heart-Cell” Fluid Module Designs

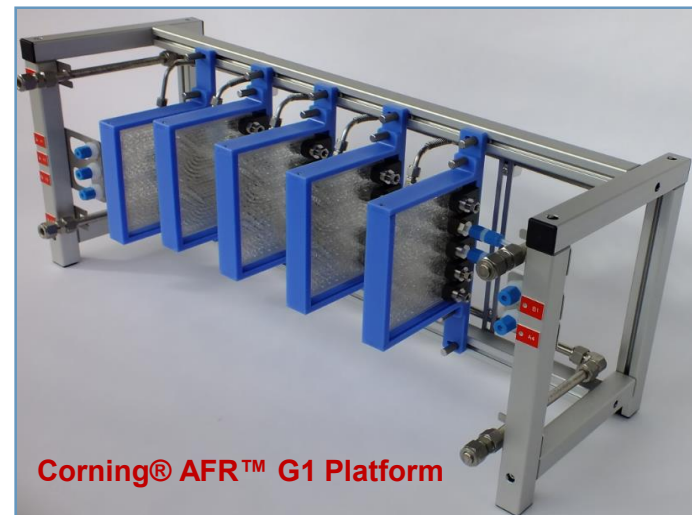
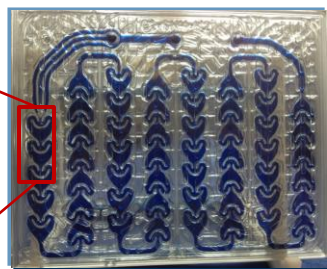
*Offer excellent mixing (100X better), superior heat transfer (1000X enhancement)*

## Mixing of Two Liquid Phases

Liquid 1: Blue

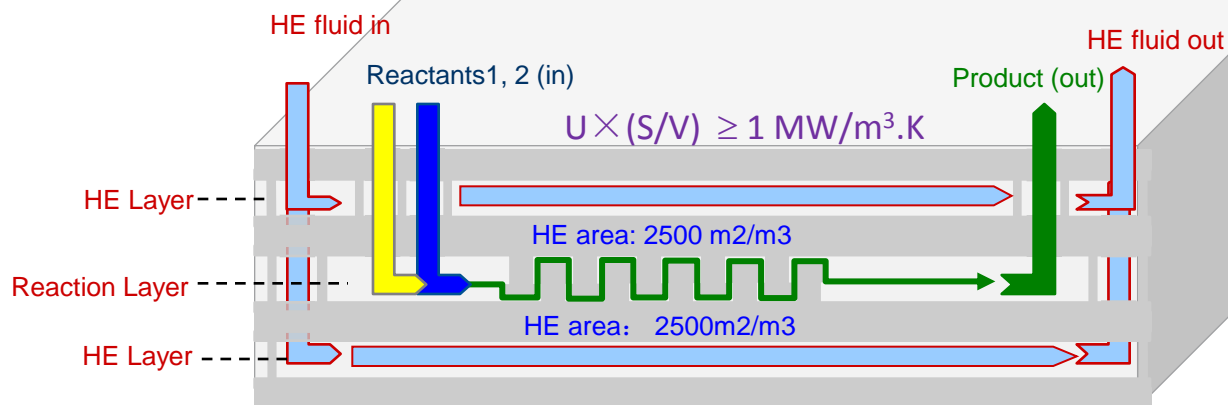
Liquid 2: Yellow

Mixture: Green

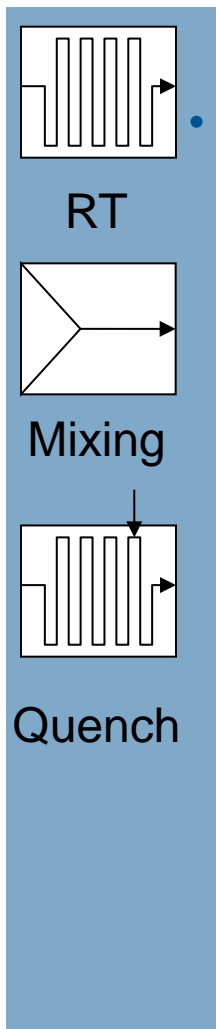


Corning® AFR™ G1 Platform

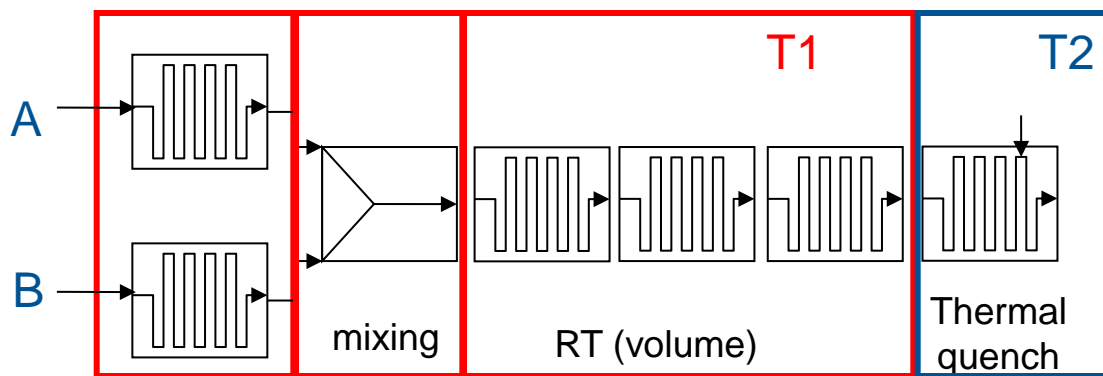
## multi-layer structure of fluidic module



# AFR Offers Process Config Flexibility & Multipurpose



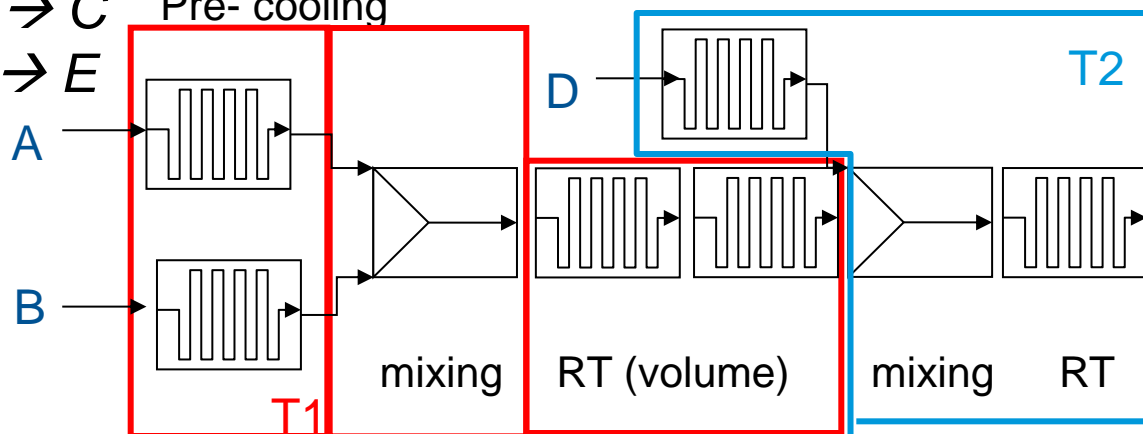
Flow reactors: A combination of individual steps



Pre-Heating



Pre-cooling

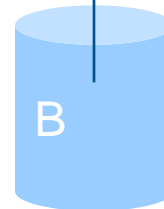
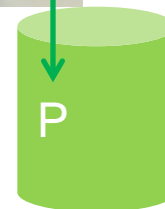
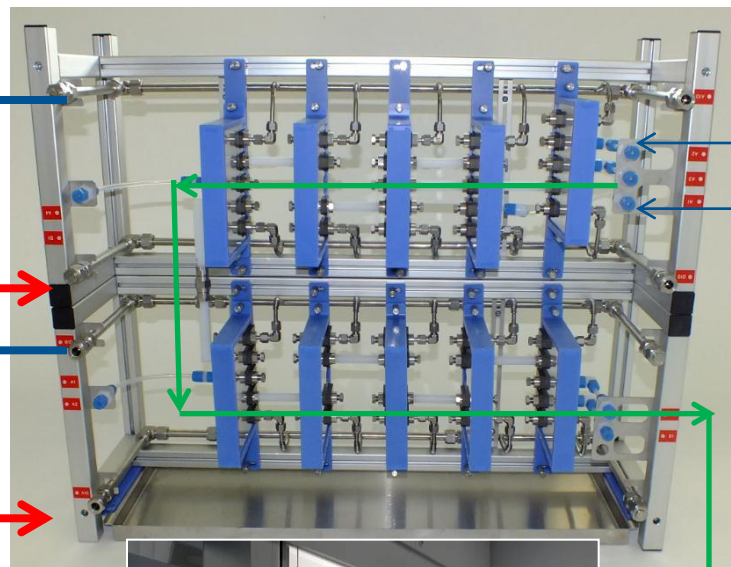


# Corning AFR™ G1 Process Development System Platform

**Chiller** for temperature  
Control:  
-20 to 200°C, 2.5 bar

**Corning AFR™ Reactor Platform**  
Operating pressure up to 18 bar

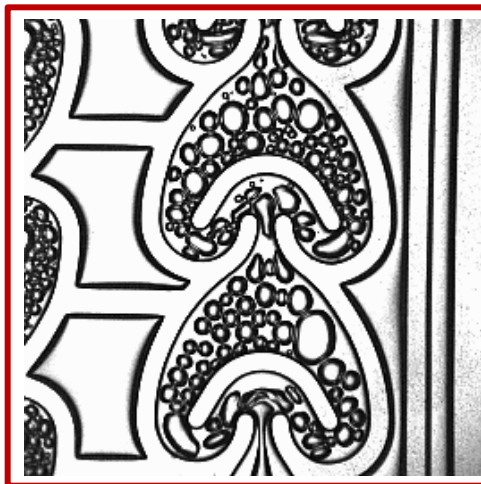
**Dosing Lines** (20 bar)  
(S.S. or  
metal-free pump-heads)





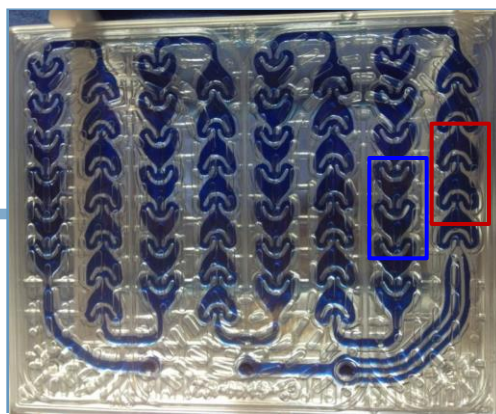
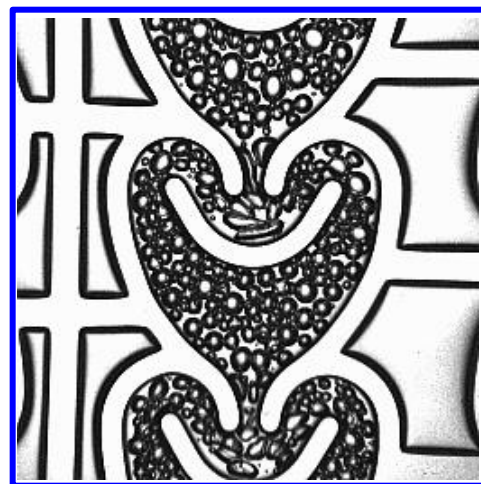
# Gas-Liquid Mixing in AFR: *100X improvement of GL interfacial area*

Up-flow heart-cell unit



L: 50 ml/min  
G: 100 NmL/min

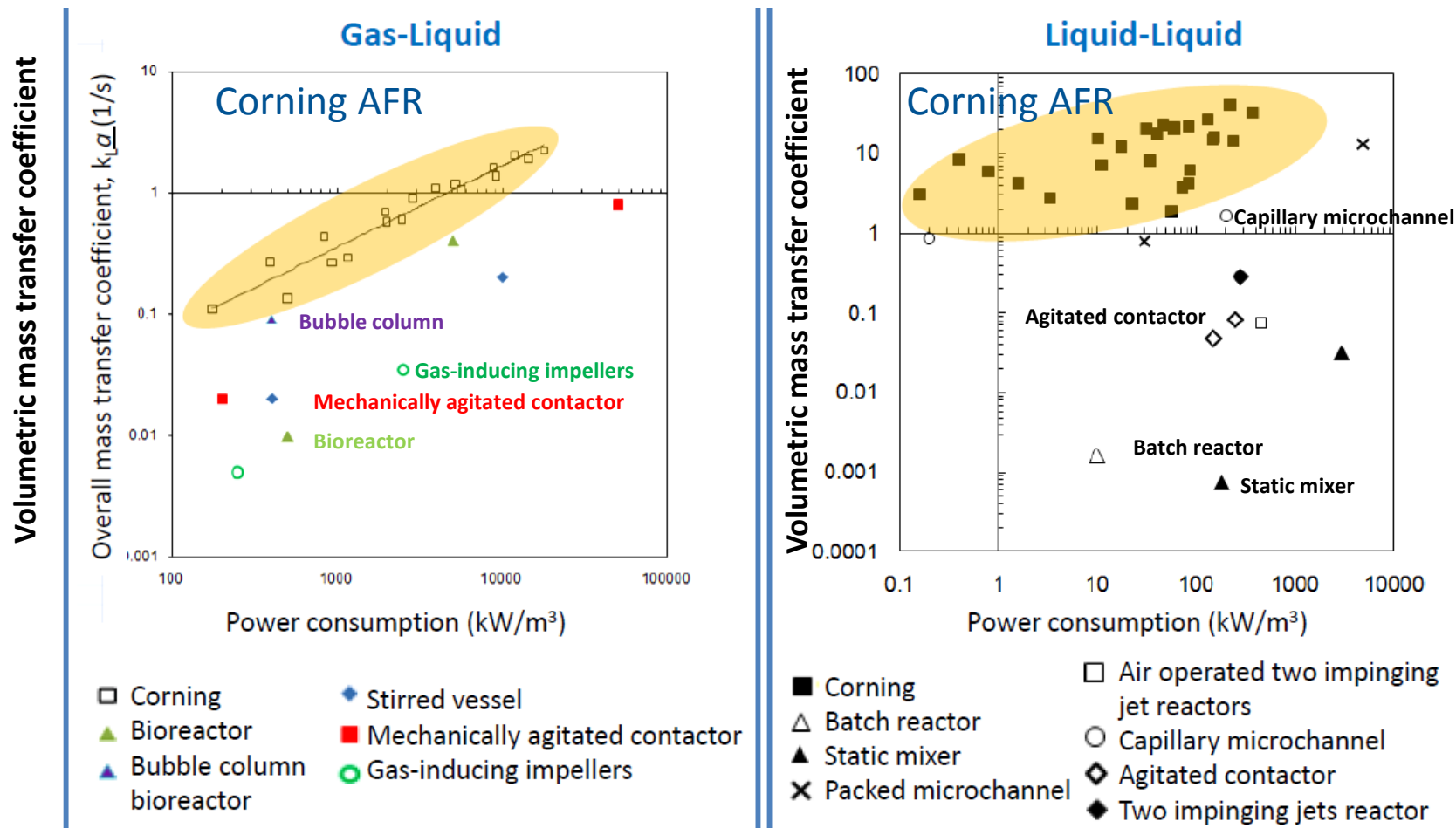
Down flow heart-cell unit



L: 100 ml/min  
G: 200 NmL/min

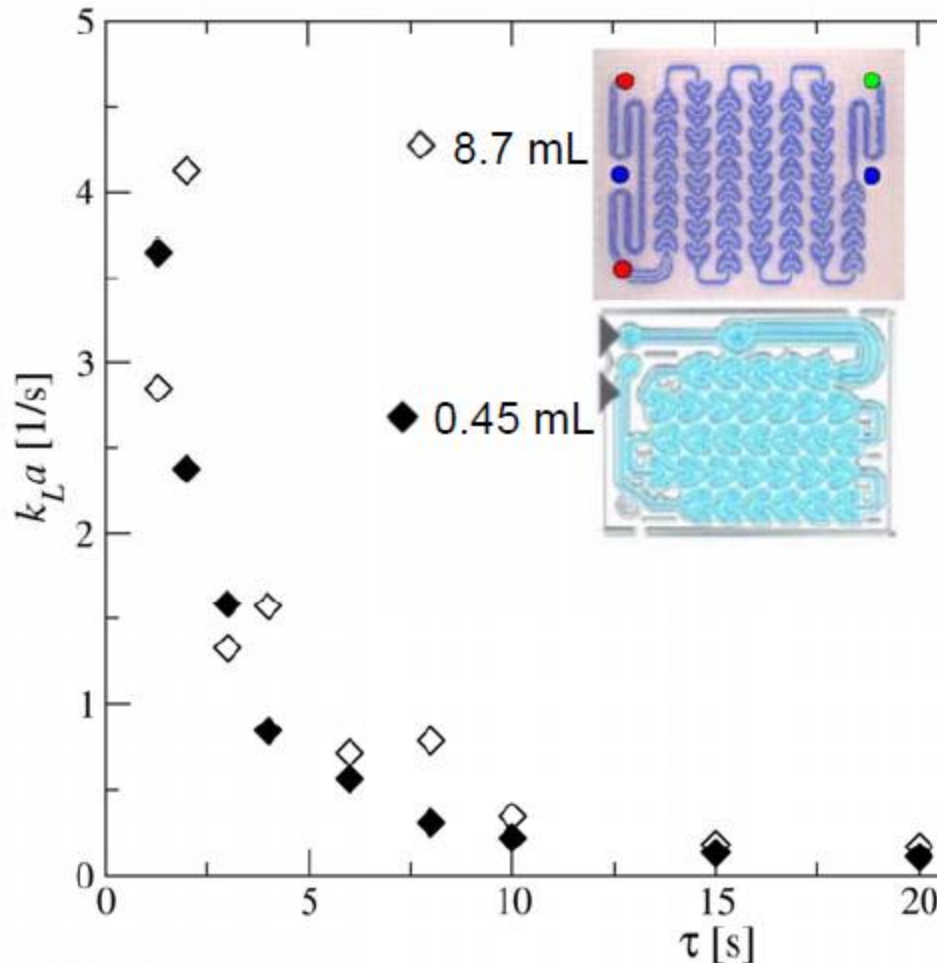


# AFR™ Offers Superior G-L, L-L Mass Transfer Performance with Much Lower Energy Consumption (or Pressure-Drops)



- María José Nieves-Remacha,† Amol A. Kulkarni,†,‡ and Klavs F. Jensen; “**Gas-Liquid Flow** and Mass Transfer in an Advanced-Flow Reactor”, *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* 2013, 52, 8996–9010
- María José Nieves-Remacha,† Amol A. Kulkarni,‡ and Klavs F. Jensen:” Hydrodynamics of **Liquid-Liquid Dispersion** in an Advanced-Flow Reactor”, *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* 2012, 51(50), 16251-16262

# Butanol-water: mass transfer in Corning AFR and LFR modules



M. J. Nieves Remacha A. A. Kulkarni

- **Splitting and combining droplets provide effective mass transfer over different length scales**



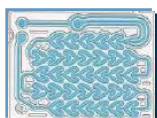
S. Kuhn, A. Woitalka, K. F. Jensen, Scalability of mass transfer in liquid-liquid flow, *Chem Eng. Sci.*, 116 (2014) 1-8



# Scaleup: Oxidation production rate increases up to 700 times from spiral microreactor (MIT) to Corning G1 AFR



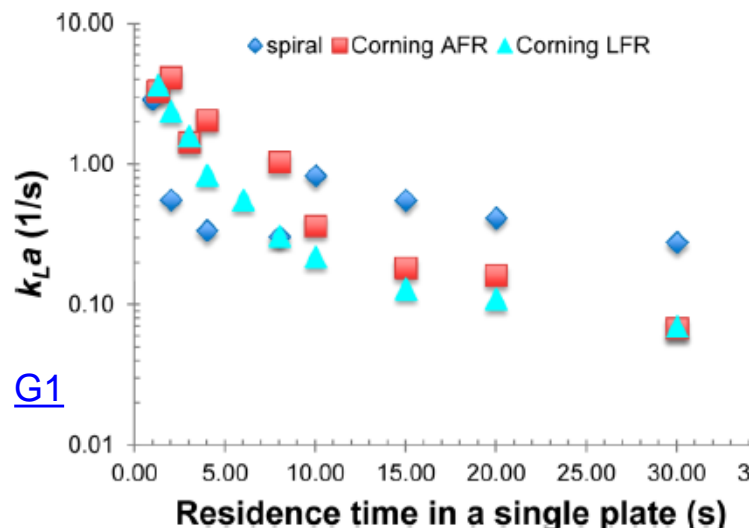
spiral



LFR



G1



Scheme 1. Optimized reaction conditions for the oxidation<sup>34</sup> of (a) 1-phenylethanol, (b) 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol, and (c) benzaldehyde<sup>33</sup>

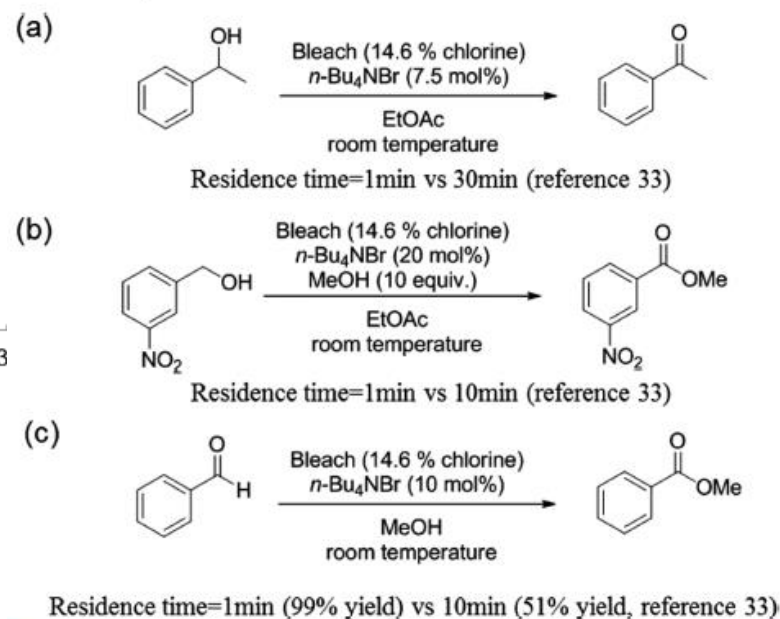


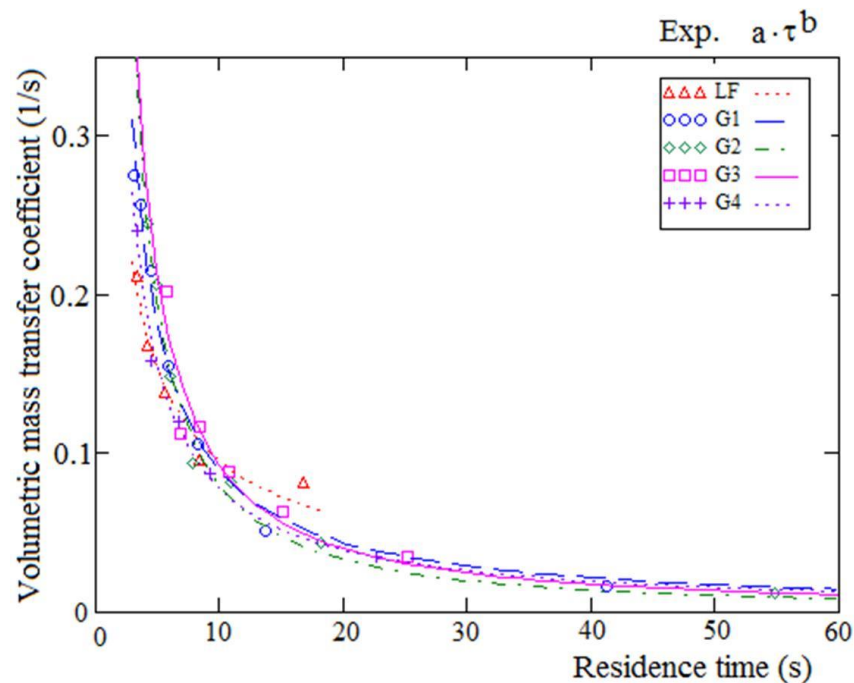
Table 1. Production rate comparison for oxidation reactions among different reactors

product	reactor type	production rate (g/min)
acetophenone	microreactor	0.0064
	Corning LFR	0.37
	Corning AFR	4.08
methyl 3-nitrobenzoate	microreactor	0.0063
	Corning LFR	0.16
	Corning AFR	1.76
methyl benzoate	microreactor	0.0027
	Corning LFR	0.075
	Corning AFR	0.85

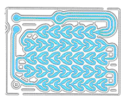
Yanjie Zhang, Stephen C. Born, and Klavs F. Jense; Scale-Up Investigation of the Continuous Phase-Transfer-Catalyzed Hypochlorite Oxidation of Alcohols and Aldehydes; *Org. Process Res. Dev.* 2014, 18, 1476–1481



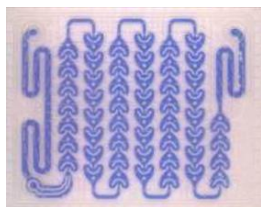
# Consistent mixing and mass transfer performance from lab to production at same residence time



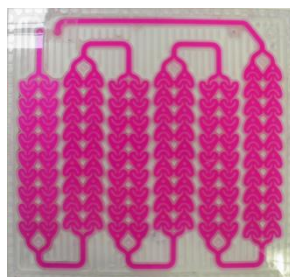
LFR 5 t/y



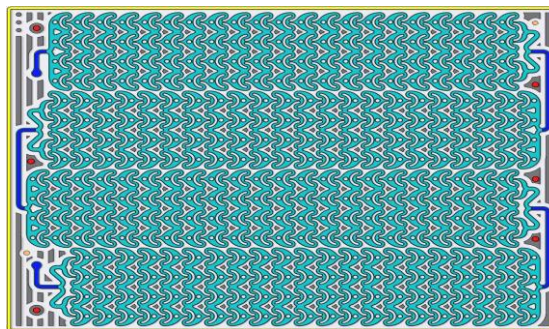
G1, 80 t/y



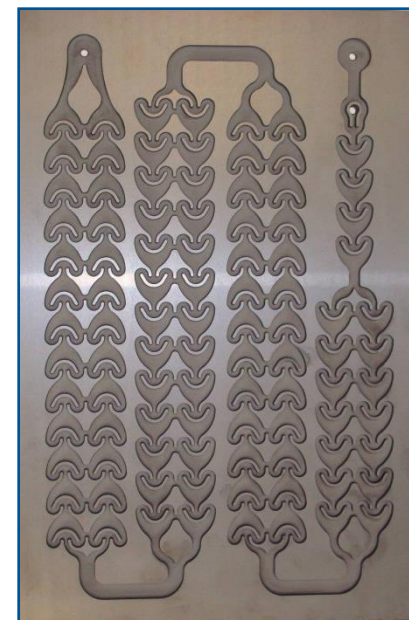
G2, 250 t/y



G3, 1000 t/y



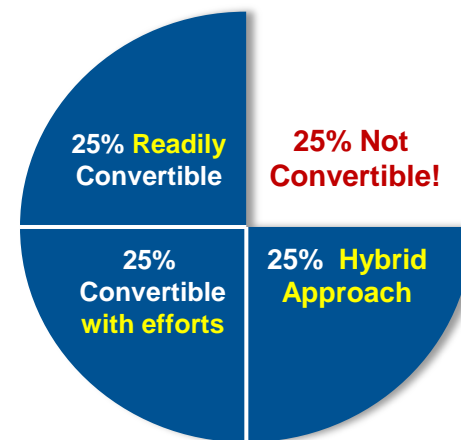
G4, 2000 t/y



# Chemistry Types Applicable in AFR

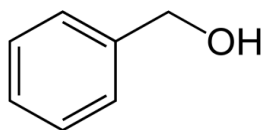
Halogenation	Chlorination
	Bromination
	Fluorination
	Hydrogenation
Low temperatures	De-hydrogen
	Halogen exchange
Friedel–Crafts	Friedel–Crafts acylation
	Friedel–Crafts Alkylation
Hydrogenation	Reduction of nitro group
	Reduction of double bond
	Reduction of triple bond
	Reduction of chloro group
	De protection
Nitration	Nitration of alcohol
	Nitration of amine
	Nitration of Aromatic compounds
Oxidation	Nitrosation of alcohol
	Oxidation double bond to alcohol
	Oxidation methene to carbonyl group
	Oxidation phenol to quinone
	Oxidation acid or alcohol to peroxide
Others	Suzuki coupling
	Hofmann degradation
	Hofmann rearrangement
	To form diazomethane
	To form diazo salt
	Grignard

How many chemistry reactions can be converted from batch process to continuous AFR

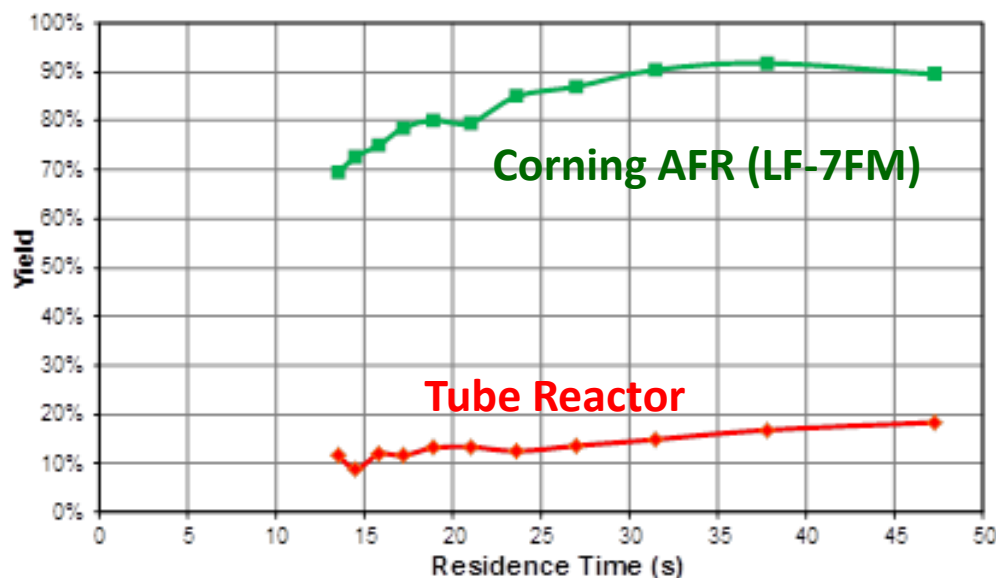
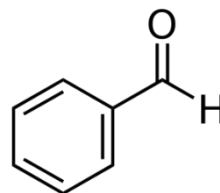


# Corning AFR vs. Tube Reactor:

## *Excellent mixing matters*



1.2 eq bleach, 0.2%mol TEMPO  
K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O, pH=8, 20°C



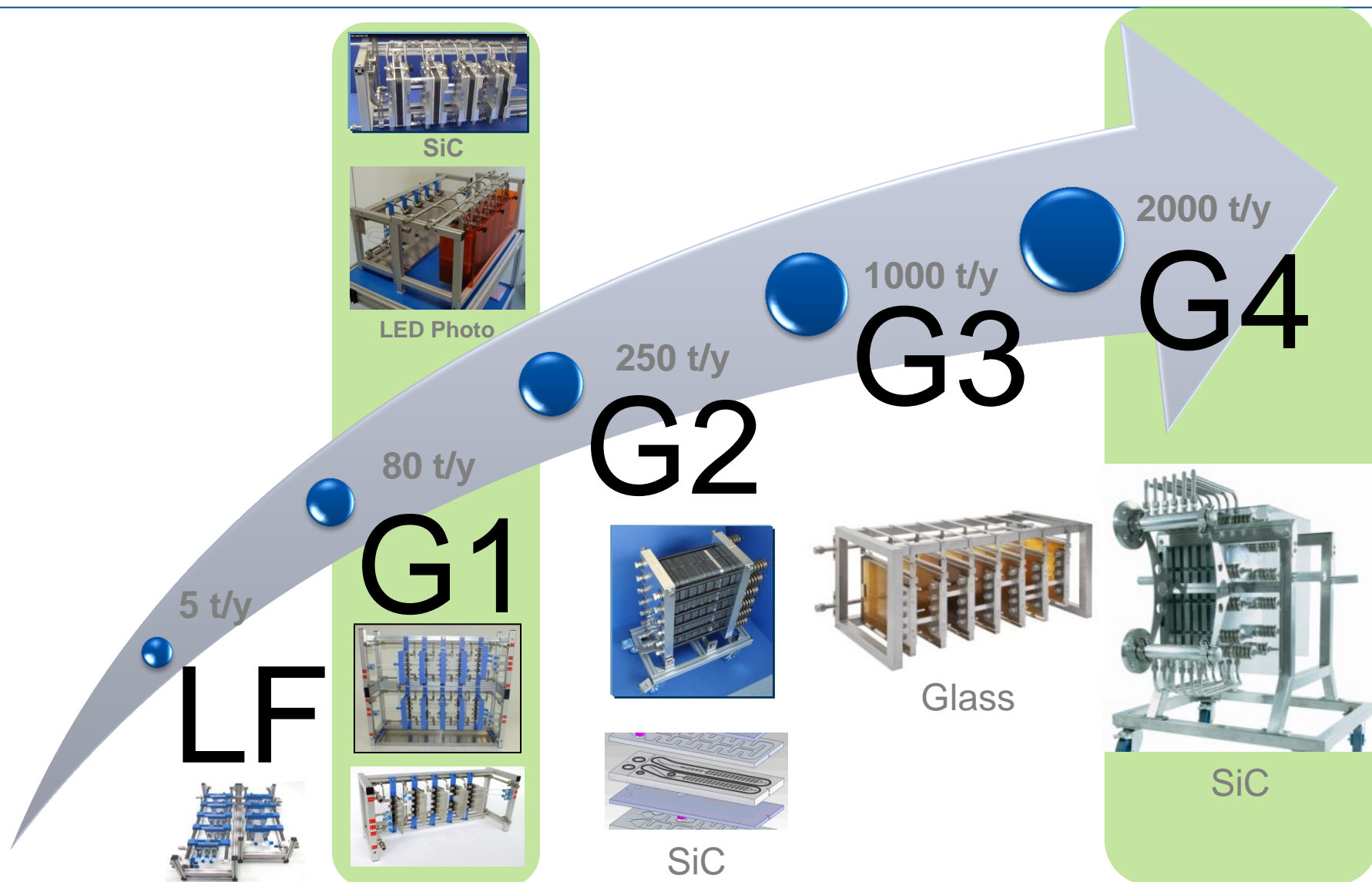
Perfect emulsion

Immiscible slugs

Organic-Aqueous immiscible mixture phases

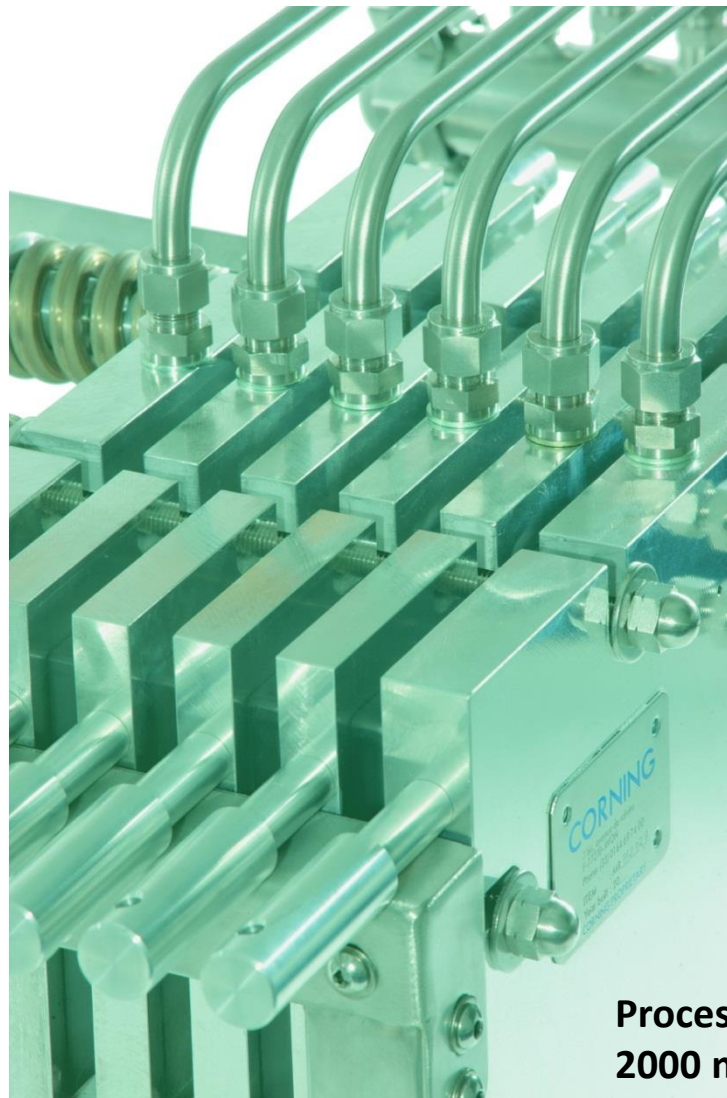
# Continuous Innovations Offer Comprehensive Solutions

*-Seamless scaleup from lab to manufacturing production*

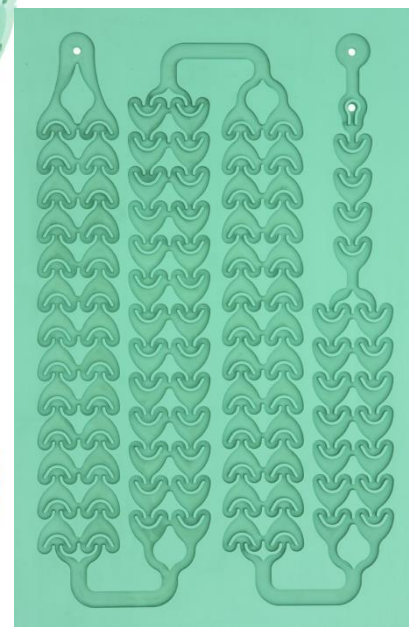
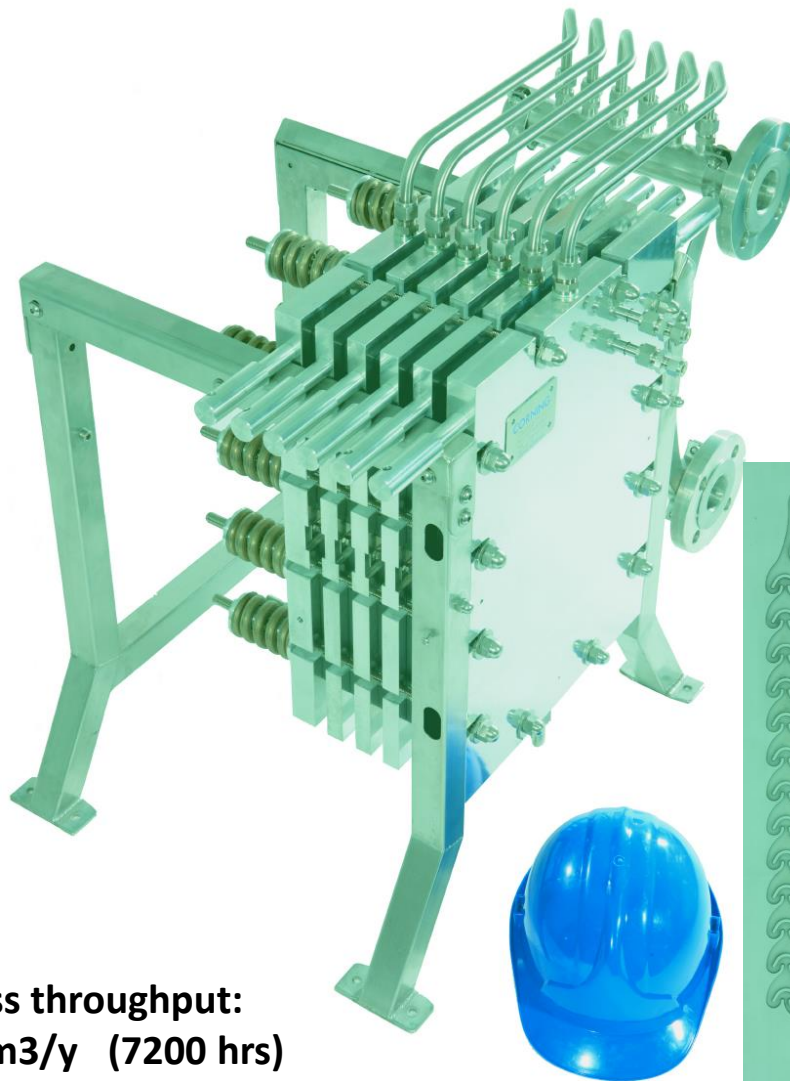




# Corning G 4 Ceramic Reactor super-throughput providing competitive production performance

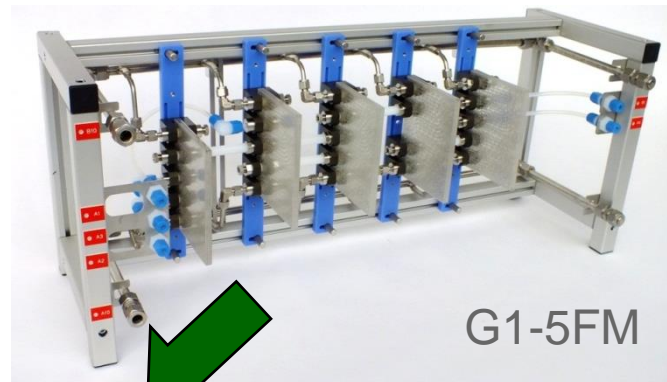


**Process throughput:  
2000 m<sup>3</sup>/y (7200 hrs)**

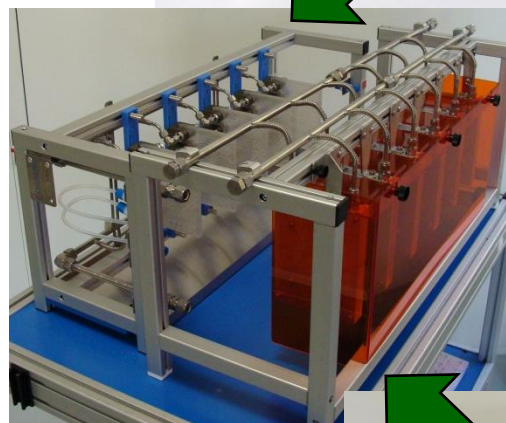


# Corning Launched AFR™ G1 Photo Reactor

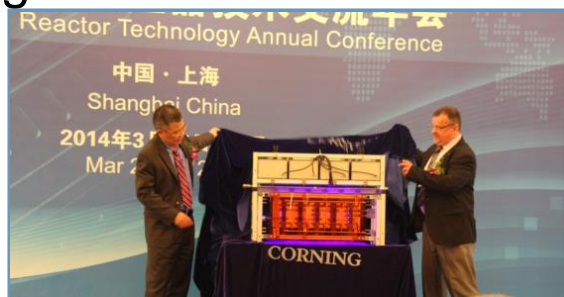
- An engineered reactor with all of the benefits from the existing G1 reactor (good mixing, good temperature management, etc)
- Plus:
  - Good control of the light source
    - Position of the LED guarantees homogenous illumination
    - LED temperature control guarantees long lifetime
  - Double illumination guarantees a more efficient use of the light
  - Choice of wavelength
    - 365 nm, 405 nm, etc.
  - Light intensity is tunable



G1-5FM



LED Lighting Device



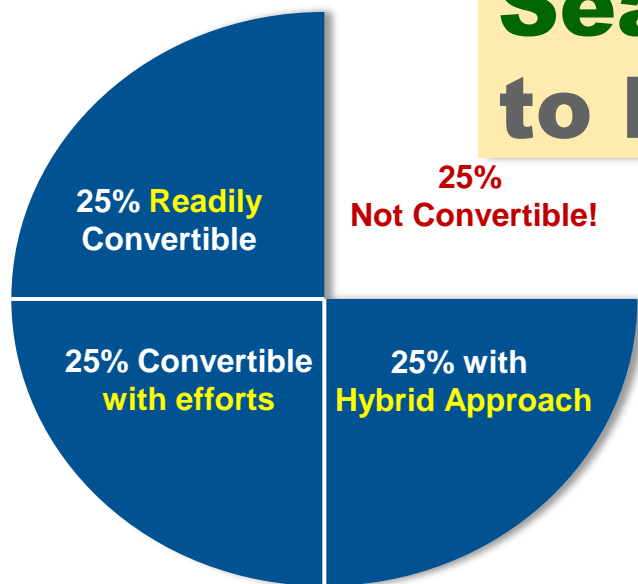
# AFR: Revolutionary Improvement vs. Batch

**1000 X HE Improvement**

**100 X Mixing Improvement**

**1/1000 X Batch Reactor Volume**

**Seamless Scaleup from Lab to Production**

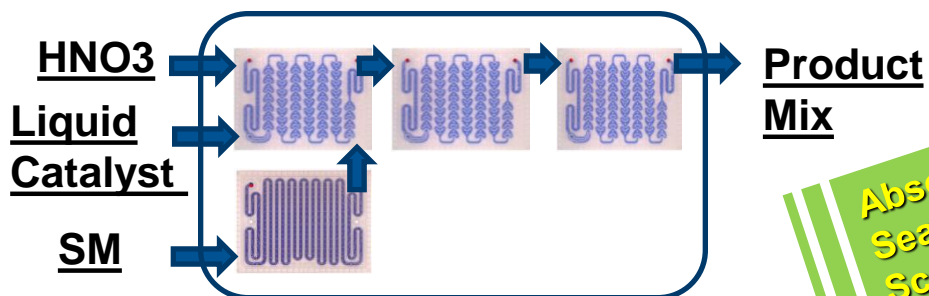


- ☐ Not 100% reactions fit to AFR
- ☐ Continue requiring innovative process development
- ☐ Chemists, ChE, MechE work together



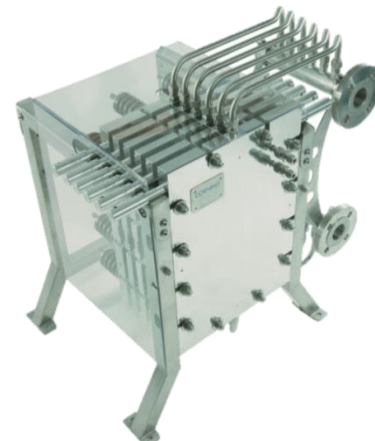
# Continuous production of fine chemicals is real with Corning® AFR™: *Fuel Additive Production*

Process Development Done in G1  
80 ton/yr throughput



- ✓ Process development was done on AFR™ G1 platform
- ✓ Optimized mole ratio, reaction temperature, flow rate, residence time, dosing method, and other parameters.
- ✓ Project duration: 4 weeks!

Production Rrun in G4  
>2000 ton/yr throughput



**Absolutely  
Seamless  
Scaleup**

- ✓ Based on G1 data, Corning designed G4 reactor.
- ✓ All parameters are the same except the flow throughput increased by 25 times and led to annual throughput of 2000 tons.
- ✓ Absolutely seamless scale-up!



# Continuous production of fine chemicals is real with Corning® AFR™: *Seamless scale-up from G1 to G4*



Seamless Scale up from G1 to G4 : Significantly changes equipment layout and safety management

## AFR Value Prop:

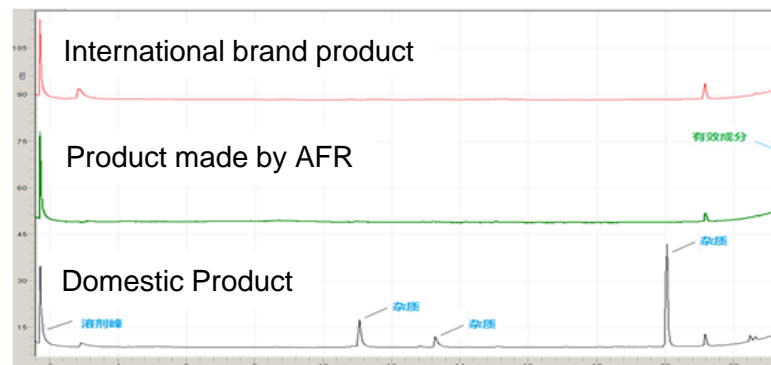
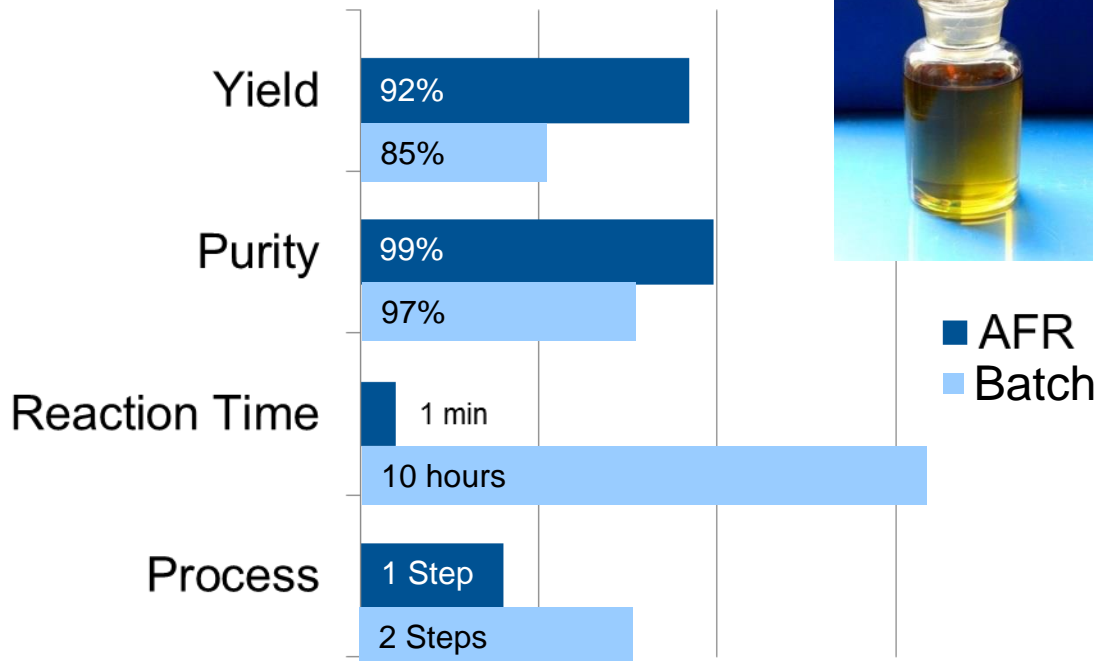
- ❑ Inherently Safer Design
- ❑ Scaled flow up by >25 times from G1 to G4
- ❑ 1<sup>st</sup> sample fully met product specs (2014.1)
- ❑ Identical yield (99.8%) achieved in G1 and G4
- ❑ Manpower reduced 70%
- ❑ Capex reduced by 30%
- ❑ Opex reduced by >30%

# AFR enabled continuous synthesis of lubricant additives

*-Simplified process with improved yield, purity, and efficiency*

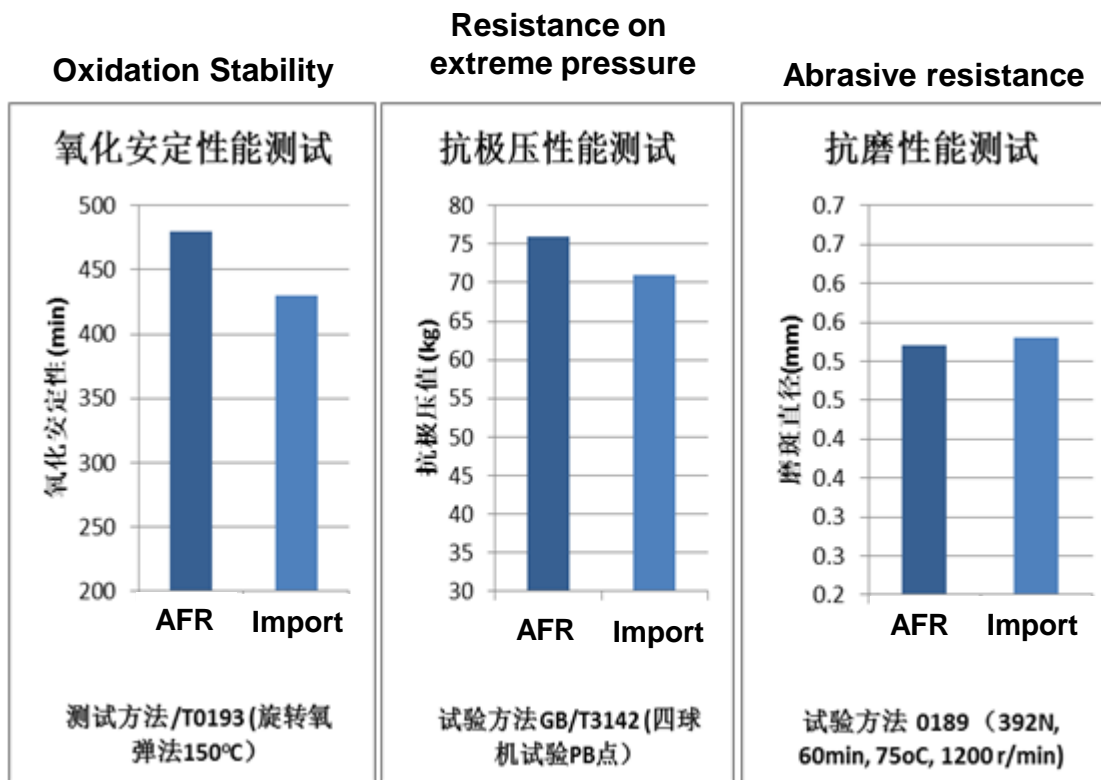
- “*Absolutely revolutionary process innovation!*” –Chinese Media
- Lubricant additives: **Y2010A**  
**4,4'-Methylene bis(dibutyldithiocarbamate)**  
**Cas No.:10254-57-6**
- AFR converted “2 step” complicated batch synthesis into “1 step” stable continuous synthesis
- Increased the yield from 85% to 92%
- Improved the purity from 97% to 99%
- Reduced reaction time from 10 hours to 1 minute
- Filed 3 process Chinese patents

## AFR vs. Batch



# AFR enabled continuous synthesis of lubricant additives

## - Y2010A application performance



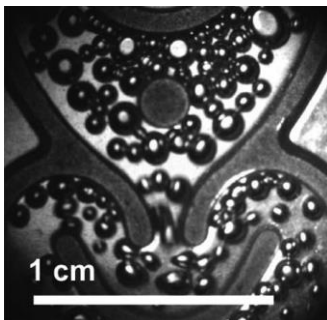
Application Performance Comparison with Import Brand Product

# Selective Hydrogenation of Slurry Catalyst

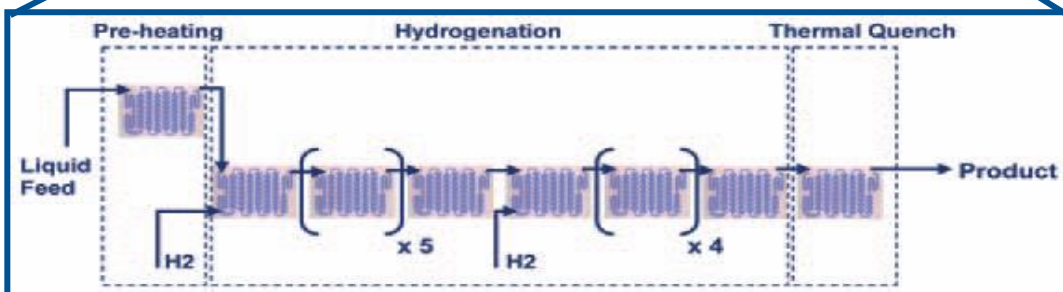
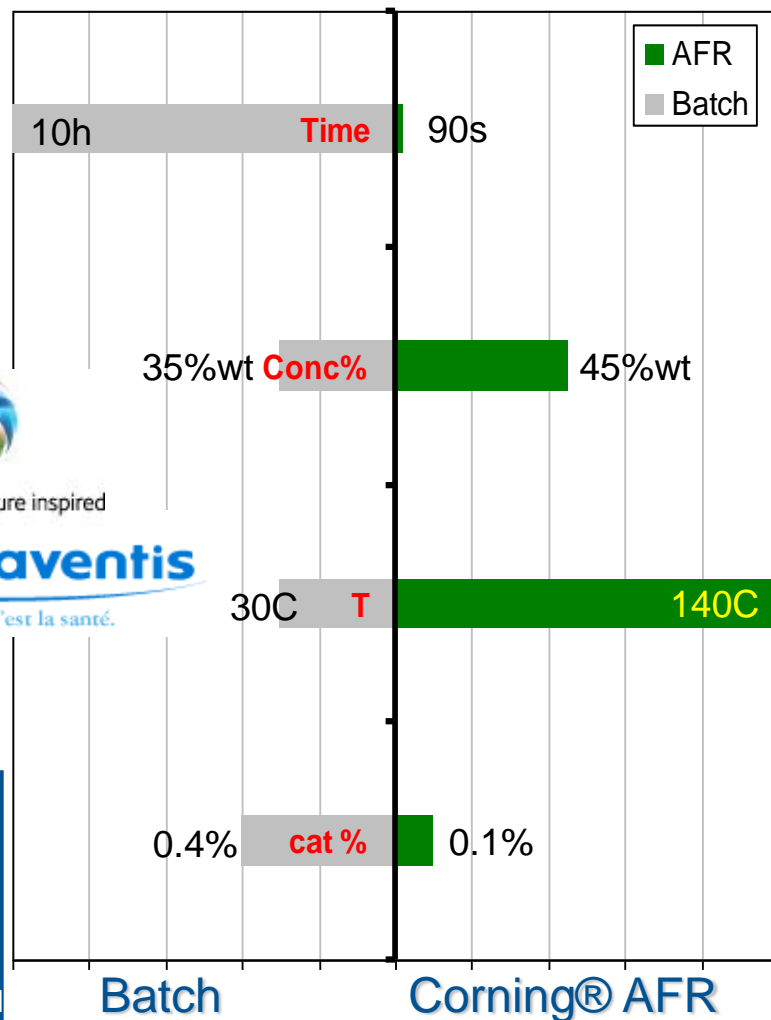
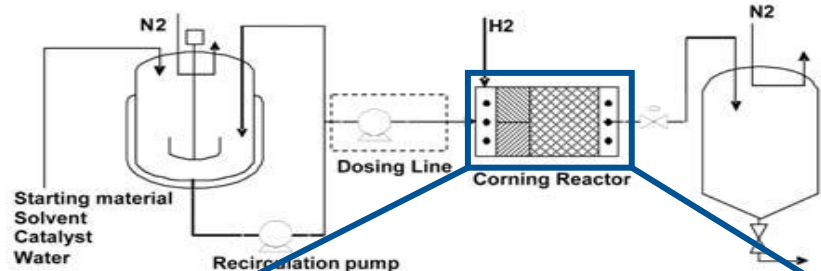
## 98%+ conversion & selectivity (impurity profiles within spec)

- highly exothermic (>400 kJ/mol)
- 30  $\mu\text{m}$  catalyst in slurry
- significant catalyst reduction

Ref: Chemistry Today • Vol 27 n 6 /  
November-December 2009



Excellent G/L Mixing

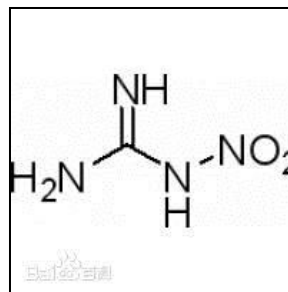
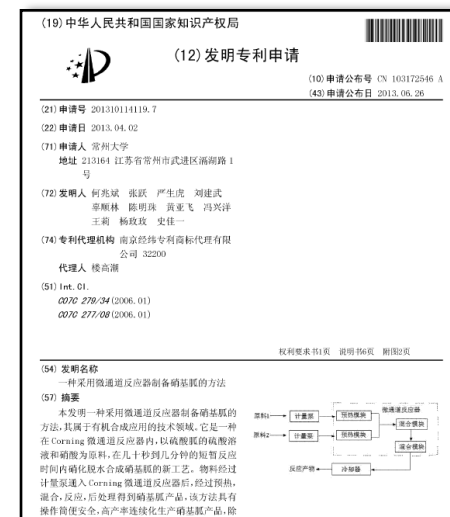




# Changzhou University: China National Award for development of flow process of nitro-guanidine with AFR

- AFR Inherently Safer Design (ISD) enables tough chemical synthesis
- Undergrads team successfully developed continuous synthesis of a hazardous chemicals using Corning® AFR (2013 November)
- Developed AFR process won national highest award
- Developed AFR process package sold to Industry for >1.6M USD

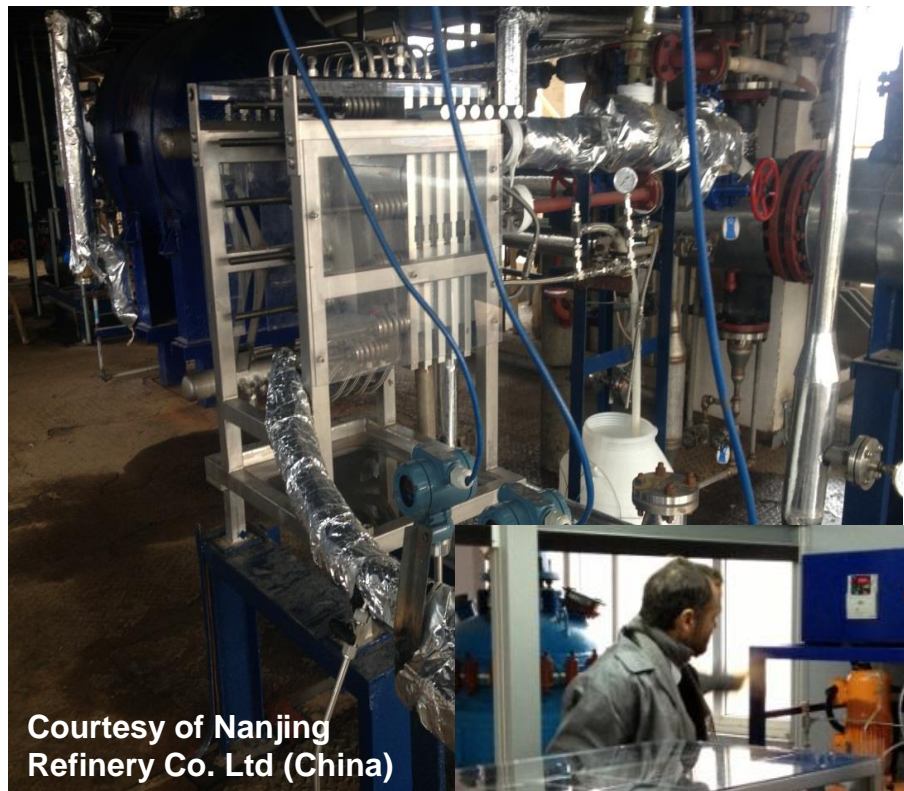
## Chinese Patent



## National Highest Award



# Production Plant Installations



Courtesy of Nanjing  
Refinery Co. Ltd (China)



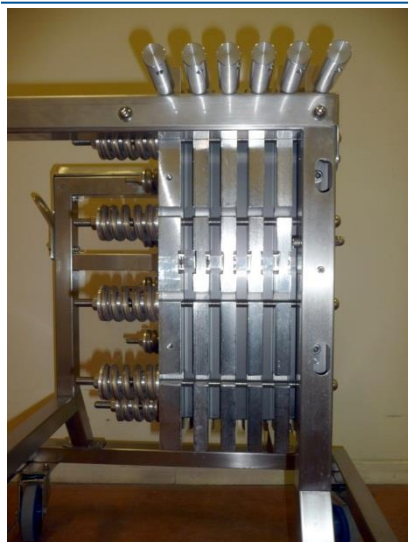
Courtesy of Shandong Brother  
Tech Co. Ltd (China)



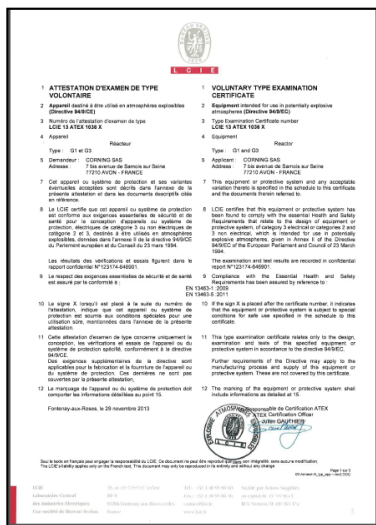
Courtesy of Medichem (Spain)



# AFR™ technology & manufacturing have received many certificates, and awards in Europe and Asia



Received 2013 National Innovation Award by China Petroleum & Chemical Industry Federation CPCIF



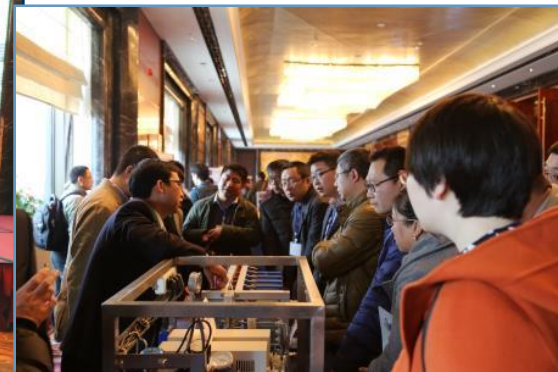
- ❖ TÜV PED Quality Certificate (G4 SiC)
- ❖ China SELO A4 (SiC)
- ❖ EU ATEX II 2 G c IIC T4 Certificate (G1, G3)
- ❖ Certificates
- ❖ FDA Certificates for compliances
- ❖ ISO 14001
- ❖ ...



AFR helped Changzhou University win National Grand Award "Challenge Award"

# 2016 Corning Reactor Technology Global Conference

## 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2016





# 2016 Corning Reactor Technology Global Conference Green Innovation Awards





# Growing list of industry & academic AFR customers\*

\* Partial list



# Growing list of industry & academic AFR customers\*

## INDIA

\* Partial list



Anupam Rasayan India Ltd



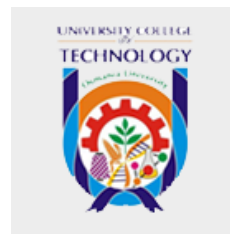
IIT Delhi



NIT Warangal



JNTU, Hyderabad



Osmania University



# Corning Application Lab in India help customers adopt AFR technologies



## Experience the Production Benefits of Continuous-Flow Technology

A Unique Opportunity Brought to You by Corning and  
Acoris Research (A Division of Hikal Ltd.)

**AFR™ Reactor  
Auxiliary Operation  
Demo**

**Fast Track Tests  
(FTT); Quick  
Feasibility Tests  
(QFT)**

**Flow Chemistry  
Process  
Development**





## Concluding Remarks

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- *AFR™ technology is an Inherently Safer Technology (IST) that drastically reduces the consequences of an accident on the plant environment, **however it does not prevent using the good & safe practices developed by the chemical industry.***
- *Successfully demonstrated seamless scale-ups providing customers increased confidence in adopting this technology*
- *We are proud of seeing our long-list of G4 production projects going on in Asia and Europe*

**Contacts:** [gosainp@corning.com](mailto:gosainp@corning.com)

**<http://www.corning.com/reactors>**